

Appl. No. 10/797,423
Docket No. 9181
Amdt. dated October 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action mailed on July 13, 2007
Customer No. 27752

REMARKS

Claim Status

Claims 21-33 are pending in the present application. No additional claims fee is believed to be due.

Claims 1-20 are canceled without prejudice.

New claim 21 has been added. Support for this amendment is found at page 13, lines 15-17; page 18, line 31-page 19, line 4; page 5, lines 11-17; page 6, lines 7-20; page 5, line 27-page 6, line 2; and page 14, lines 25-26; and page 15, lines 9-10 of the specification.

New claims 22-24 have been added. Support for this amendment is found at page 11, lines 16-33 of the specification.

New claim 25 has been added. Support for this amendment is found at page 6, line 13.

New claim 26 has been added. Support for this amendment is found at page 12, line 30-page 13, line 2 of the specification.

New claim 27 has been added. Support for this amendment is found at page 13, lines 4-14 of the specification.

New claims 28-32 have been added. Support this amendment can be found in the previous (now canceled) claims.

It is believed these changes do not involve any introduction of new matter. Consequently, entry of these changes is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC §103(a) Over Otten in view of Pike and Hartwig

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 10-12, 14, 16, 19, and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,257,785 to Otten, et al. (hereinafter

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"Otten") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,605,749 to Pike, et al. (hereinafter "Pike") and U.S. Publication No. 2004/0022833 to Hartwig, et al. (hereinafter "Hartwig"). Claims 1-20 have been canceled rendering the rejection moot.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-6, 10-12, 14-16, 19, and 20 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting and being unpatentable over claims 1-36 of copending Application 10/947,718 in view of Pike and Hartwig. Claim 1-20 have been canceled rendering the rejection moot.

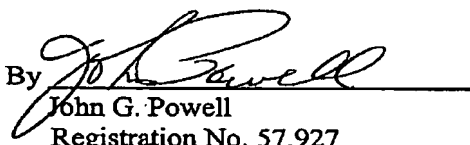
Conclusion

This response represents an earnest effort to place the present application in proper form and to distinguish the invention as claimed from the applied reference(s). In view of the foregoing, entry of the amendment(s) presented herein, reconsideration of this application, and allowance of the pending claim(s) are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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